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Date: November 1, 1999
Docket No.: 2095-0104P

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

As authorized by the inventor(s), transmitted herewith for filing
is a patent application applied for on behalf of the inventor(s)
according to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.41(c).

Inventor(s): LEUNG, Lap Yan
LAU, Man Kin

For: A CHINESE CHARACTER ENCODING INPUT METHOD AND ITS INPUT APPARATUS

Enclosed are:

- A specification consisting of 27 pages
- 9 sheet(s) of Formal drawings
- Certified copy of Priority Document(s)
- Executed Declaration in accordance with 37 CFR 1.64 will follow
- A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 37 CFR 1.27
- Preliminary Amendment
- Information Sheet
- Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 with reference(s)

Other _____

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

	LARGE ENTITY			SMALL ENTITY		
FOR	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEES	RATE	FEES
BASIC FEE	***** ***** *****	***** ***** *****	***** ***** *****	\$760.00	or	**** **** ****
TOTAL CLAIMS	11 - 20 =	0	x18 = \$	0.00	or	x 9 = \$ 0.00
INDEPENDENT	2 - 3 =	0	x78 = \$	0.00	or	x 39 = \$ 0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED	<u>no</u>		+260 = \$	0.00	or	+130 = \$ 0.00
			TOTAL \$	760.00	TOTAL \$	0.00

The application transmitted herewith is filed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.41(c). The undersigned has been authorized by the inventor(s) to file the present application. The original duly executed patent application together with the surcharge will be forwarded in due course.

A check in the amount of \$ 760.00 to cover the filing fee and recording fee (if applicable) is enclosed.

— The Government Filing Fee will be paid at the time of completion of the filing requirement.

— Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$. A triplicate copy of this transmittal form is enclosed.

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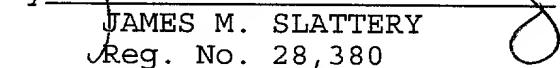
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If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Slattery".

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PATENT
2095-104P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: LEUNG, Lap Yan et al

Serial No.: New Group: Unknown

Filed: November 1, 1999 Examiner: Unknown

For: A CHINESE CHARACTER ENCODING INPUT METHOD AND ITS INPUT APPARTUS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

November 1, 1999

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIM:

CLAIM 6: Line 1, change "claim 1 or 5" to --claim 1--

***** R E M A R K *****

The above amendment to the claim are to delete the multiple dependent and place the application into better form prior to examination.

PATENT
2095-104P

Favorable action on the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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A CHINESE CHARACTER ENCODING INPUT METHOD AND ITS INPUT APPARATUS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to computer application field, more particularly to a Chinese character encoding input method by which Chinese characters are written via a computer and an input apparatus thereof.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

There have been many technical solutions to typewriting Chinese characters via
10 a computer. For example, on the premise that a Chinese character library is added
 into the hardware, or a Chinese character library is installed into the memory of a
 computer via CD, Chinese character computer input can be realized according to a
 certain predetermined Chinese character computer input method. At present, there
 have been several hundred Chinese character computer input methods, each of
15 which has its own characteristic and peculiarity, but a common shortcoming exists,
 that is, input speed is slow, and on average four to five or more keys are needed to
 input a Chinese character. Moreover, it is necessary to remember many Chinese
 character radicals and a decomposing method of Chinese characters, therefore it is
 difficult to study and remember. There are increasing requirements of Chinese
20 character computer input methods in computer technology, communication

technology, information transmission, network transmission technology and the like, so it is necessary to find an input method and its corresponding apparatus that is simple and convenient, needs less content to learn by rote and less key touch.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 It is an object of this invention to provide a method for realizing Chinese character input in an information transmission apparatus such as a computer, telephone, or mobile telephone, an input apparatus thereof and a computer and telephone including such apparatus. As compared with the prior art, the Chinese character input method of present invention needs less key touch, needs less
10 information to learn by rote and is easy to remember and use.

To achieve the above object, according to the Chinese character encoding input method of the invention, all Chinese characters are divided into two groups, monolithic characters and transverse characters, all shapes of starting strokes of Chinese characters are divided into nine groups, that is, dot shape, straight shape,
15 oblique shape, circle shape, cave shape, steeple shape, cross shape, fork shape and zigzag shape, each shape corresponds to one of the numbers 1-9, and a JiuGong lattice is constituted by three rows and three columns, 3×3 , nine squares. Each shape of the starting strokes further corresponds to a set of 9 radicals, thus altogether 81 radicals are arranged in JiuGong form respectively. Under the direction
20 of a JiuGong lattice, firstly, a corresponding number key is pressed according to the

starting stroke of a Chinese character to be inputted; secondly, according to a radical to be inputted, a corresponding radical in a JiuGong lattice pattern is selected, a number key of the keyboard determined by the position of said radical in the JiuGong lattice is pressed; thirdly, if the Chinese character to be inputted is a monolithic character, a function key is pressed, then the selection of the Chinese character starts; if the Chinese character to be inputted is a transverse character, a corresponding number key is pressed according to the shape of the starting stroke of the right-half of said Chinese character , then the selection of the Chinese character starts. Thus the input of a Chinese character is completed. The input apparatus of the invention includes a keyboard containing at least number keys 1-9 and two function keys, and the keys 1-9 of said keyboard correspond to nine shapes of the starting strokes of Chinese characters, and the number keys 1-9 are arranged into three rows and three columns in the JiuGong lattice pattern. The Chinese character computer further contains a Chinese character library, a JiuGong lattice pattern library and an exclusive control program.

The feature and advantage of this invention will be further described with reference of the attached drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is an explanatory drawing of the relationship between character shape and its corresponding number according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method

of the invention.

Fig. 2 is a schematic graph showing a minimum keyboard for the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention.

Fig. 3 is a graph showing a JiuGong lattice on a display screen according to the
5 Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention.

Fig. 4 is a explanatory drawing of an embodiment of an apparatus used for the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention.

Fig. 5 is a basic block diagram of a computer device according to the Chinese character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention.

10 Fig. 6 is a flow chart of the Chinese character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention.

Fig. 7 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 7 is pressed at step 1 according to Chinese character JiuGong input method.

15 Fig.8 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 8 is pressed at step 1.

Fig.9 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 9 is pressed at step 1.

20 Fig.10 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 4 is pressed at step 1.

Fig.11 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 5 is pressed at step 1.

Fig.12 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 6 is pressed at step 1.

5 Fig.13 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 1 is pressed at step 1.

Fig.14 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 2 is pressed at step 1.

10 Fig.15 is a schematic drawing of a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, which appears when key 3 is pressed at step 1

Fig. 16 is a flow chart of the example of inputting a character “高” according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method.

15 Fig. 17A-17C are explanatory drawings of JiuGong pattern in the example of inputting a character “高” according to the Chinese character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention.

Fig. 18 is a flow chart of the example of inputting a character “敲” according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method.

20 Fig. 19A-19C are explanatory drawings of JiuGong pattern in the example of inputting a character “敲” according to the Chinese character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention.

Fig. 20 is an explanatory drawing of a telephone set according to the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

The invention will be described in detail with reference to the attached drawings.

Referring to Fig. 1, Fig. 1 is an explanatory drawing of the relationships between

5 character shapes and their corresponding numbers according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention. The characteristic of the encoding of the invention is that, all Chinese characters are divided into nine shape groups, that is, dot shape, straight shape, oblique shape, circle shape, cave shape, steeple shape, cross shape, fork shape and zigzag shape, each character shape
10 corresponds to one of the numbers 1-9, so that Chinese character input operation can be realized through the number keys in the keyboard of a computer, or through a separate keyboard of number keys. It is also a characteristic of the invention that only number keys 1-9 are needed to realize Chinese character computer input.

The relationships between character shapes and their corresponding number

15 according to the invention are as follows. As shown in Fig. 1, Nine numbers are distributed into 3 rows and 3 columns. There are three squares every row, each of which corresponds to a number. Also there are three squares every column, each of which corresponds a number. Thus a nine-square lattice, containing nine squares, is constituted. According to Chinese culture, it is called a JiuGong lattice, which is used
20 throughout the Chinese character input. In the JiuGong lattice, numbers

corresponding to dot shape, straight shape and oblique shape respectively are 7, 8, 9 at first row from left to right; numbers corresponding to circle shape, cave shape and steeple shape respectively are 4, 5, 6 at second row from left to right; numbers corresponding to cross shape, fork shape and zigzag shape respectively are 1, 2, 3 at third row from left to right. The character shapes of Chinese characters are divided in groups, so that at step1 and step3 of the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention they can be used. The specific form that every shape covers is as follows:

A dot shape is denoted by “*”, that is, the key 7, and it covers those Chinese characters which start with a dot stroke, for example, 永, 实, 痘, 次, 汕, 火, 心, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e.,丶, 丷, 丵, 丶, 丶, 丶, 丶, 丶, 丶. A straight shape is denoted by “—”, that is, the key 8, and it covers those Chinese characters which start with a horizontal or vertical stroke, for example, 王, 两, 面, 中, 愿, 虎, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 丨, 卜, 厂, 雨, 西, 中, 巾, 虫. An oblique shape is denoted by “/”, that is, the key 9, and it covers those Chinese characters which start with an oblique stroke, for example, 我, 毛, 香, 受, 反, 急, 年, 篁, 作, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 丶, 丷, 丵, 丶, 丶, 丶, 丶, 丶, 丶. A circle shape is denoted by “o”, that is, the key 4, and it covers those Chinese characters which include a

four-side frame , for example, 国, 圆, 目, 尸, 巴, 民, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 口, 尸, 日, 目, 田, 已, 贝, 足, 骨. A cave shape is denoted by “U” , that is, the key 5, and it covers those Chinese characters which have an incomplete frame with three sides, for example,
5 同, 山, 月, 风, 冥, 巨, 市, 凶, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 乚, 冂, 冂, 几, 冂, 匚, 丂, 丂, 山. A steeple shape is denoted by “A” , that is, the key 6, and it covers those Chinese characters which is of steeple form, for example, 金, 分, 父, 谷, 小, 祭, 食, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 人, 八, 入, 亼, 金, 食, 父, 小, 亼. A cross shape is
10 denoted by “十” , that is, the key 1, and it covers those Chinese characters which include a cross-alike form, for example, 直, 提, 土, 青, 木, 草, 草, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 十, 才, 土, 王, 木, 束, 卄, 廿, 车. A fork shape is denoted by “X” , that is, the key 2, and it covers those Chinese characters in which two strokes intersect to form “X” , and one of the two strokes is oblique, for example,
15 有, 杀, 大, 春, 成, 力, 女, 也, 七, also, it covers the following nine radicals, i.e., 夂, 丂, 丂, 力, 女, 夂, 壴, 戈, 丂. A zigzag shape is denoted by “Z” , that is, the key 3, and it covers those Chinese characters which have a zigzag stroke, for example, 了, 飞, 参, 阵, 刀, 丝, 弓, 马, also,
20 it covers the following nine radicals, i.e.,

一, 𠂔, 马, 𠂔, 𠂔刀, 𠂔, 弓, 𠂔. The program steps of the Chinese character JiuGong input method will be described with reference to Fig.3.

Referring to Fig. 2, Fig. 2 is an explanatory drawing of an embodiment of a minimum keyboard used in the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention. The keyboard in the Fig. 2 has 11 keys, which are distributed into 4 rows and 3 columns. The bigger key in the 4th row, occupying a place of two keys, is denoted by “0”. It can also be denoted by other symbols, but it is most convenient to use “0” to denote it, because there are keys “0” in computer keyboards, telephone and mobile telephone keyboards. In the invention, the key “0” is a function key, one of the two function keys in the 4th rows, so that the Chinese character input can be performed through a keyboard having only 11 keys.

Referring to Fig. 3, Fig. 3 is a graph showing a JiuGong lattice on a display screen according to the Chinese character input method of the invention. To the end, firstly, the steps of the Chinese character computer input method of the invention will be described. There are mainly three steps. When a computer is powered and a Chinese character input program is run, a JiuGong lattice appears, for example, at upper right corner on the computer display screen. In the lattice are the denotations of the respective shape. At step1, according to the shape of the starting stroke of the Chinese character to be inputted (as to the content of the shape of a starting stroke, it has been fully explained in the description of Fig.1), a key is pressed, then the

content in the JiuGong lattice on the display screen changes to a JiuGong lattice radical pattern, including nine radicals. Then, at step 2, it is determined which radical of the JiuGong lattice radical pattern is the radical of the Chinese character to be inputted, then a corresponding number key is pressed based on the position of the determined radical. After the corresponding number key is pressed, the JiuGong lattice radical pattern changes to a picture of nine Chinese characters, a step 3 starts here. In case of a Chinese character which can not be split, such as “高”，“首”，“图” and the like, step 3 is a stage of highlighting and selecting, and after key 0 is pressed, a selecting step starts. If the character to be inputted has been among the nine Chinese characters of the JiuGong lattice, a corresponding key is pressed, the input Chinese character jump into the position to which the cursor points in the typing picture. If the character to be inputted has not been among the nine Chinese characters of the JiuGong lattice, a predetermined function key is pressed to change the JiuGong lattice Chinese character picture, and a next picture of nine Chinese characters appears in the JiuGong lattice. The operation is repeated until the Chinese character to be inputted has been among the nine Chinese characters of the JiuGong lattice. Then it is input to jump into the position to which the cursor points in the typing picture. In case of a Chinese character which can be split into a left-half and right-half, such as “相”，“柳”，“部” and so on, according to the definition the respective shape of Fig. 1, and

considering the starting stroke or the characteristic of main part of the character to be inputted except the radical, a corresponding number key is decided. The Chinese character picture of JiuGong lattice on the display screen changes to a picture of nine Chinese characters determined through combining step 1, step 2 and step 3.

5 After this, the stage of highlighting and selecting described above starts, a Chinese character is selected, referring to Fig. 6.

According to the method, only two keys or three are needed to input a Chinese character. Due to the very fast input speed of the method, it is also called JiuGong fast code method.

10 Another characteristic of the method is that the content to be continued is displayed through a JiuGong pattern, needless to learn by rote, so that all operations are suggested in a picture of JiuGong lattice on the display screen, and user can perform a further operation on basis of the suggestion.

15 Only three steps are needed in the method to realize the input of Chinese characters, so it is one of the input methods containing minimum steps.

The invention makes use of a Chinese characteristic JiuGong lattice to reduce complexity of Chinese character input, and nine character shapes, leading to 9×9 , i.e., 81 radicals, are used, so that thousands of Chinese characters, which are commonly used, are covered by the 81 radicals.

20 All characteristics described above belong to the characteristics of the invention.

Referring to Fig. 4, Fig. 4 is a explanatory drawing of an embodiment of an apparatus according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention. A computer of book size, a laptop computer is shown in the figure. Connected to the keyboard of the embodiment of the invention shown in Fig.2 through an interface, it can work anywhere, and is portable. The attached keyboard shouldn't be too large, or too small to fit adult's fingers, and can be, for example, the same size as the corresponding part of a standard computer keyboard. The configuration is suitable for anybody who input Chinese characters at any place using the method of the invention, and it will bring people great convenience.

In the configuration of Fig. 4, the computer can be replaced by other types of computers, for example, a desktop computer, a large notebook computer and so on. And it is also available.

Referring to Fig. 5, Fig. 5 is a basic block diagram of a computer apparatus according to the Chinese character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention.

The computer apparatus includes a keyboard 1, a CPU 2, a memory 3, a display 4 and a printer 5, in which CPU 2 is connected with each of other components to perform the command and program control. The computer apparatus is characterized in that an exclusive control program 3-1, a Chinese character library 3-2 and a JiuGong lattice pattern library 3-3 are contained in memory 3. Chinese characters, which are inputted in advance, are stored in the Chinese character library

3-2. JiuGong lattice patterns are stored in the JiuGong lattice pattern library 3-3, which includes symbols and Chinese characters which are inputted and arranged in advance, so that under the control of the instruction from the keyboard 1 and the CPU 2, it can be outputted at a predetermined position on the display frame after 5 frame through the exclusive control program 3-1 to perform the operation of Chinese character input. For example, the JiuGong character and Chinese character shown in Fig.1 are displayed.

The Chinese character library 3-2 and JiuGong lattice pattern library 3-3 and their corresponding exclusive control program 3-1, related to Chinese character 10 JiuGong fast code input method, could also be stored in the form of a software or compact disc, then loaded into a computer to use.

Because the Chinese character JiuGong fast code library 3-2, pattern library 3-3 and exclusive control program 3-1, containing Chinese character decomposing expression, how to match, select a symbol and highlight, are preset or inputted in the 15 computer, the Chinese character input operation, using Chinese character JiuGong encoding method, are ensured to be a fast and simple Chinese character input method.

Referring to Fig.7, Fig. 7 is a JiuGong lattice pattern, which appears when key 7 is pressed at step 1 according to Chinese character JiuGong input method. The 20 pattern includes nine radicals which are related to the dot shape, and whose starting

stroke is a dot shape. In this pattern, based on the position of the corresponding radicals, a number key is selected, for example, if the character to be inputted is the character “火” , or has the radical “火” , then key 2 is pressed; if the character to be inputted has the radical “广” , then key 6 is pressed, and so on. In the 5 invention, only these nine radicals are selected in the dot shape group.

Referring to Fig.8, similar to Fig 7, Fig.8 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 8 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals whose first strokes are related to the straight shape. If the radical “—” is selected, then key 7 is pressed; If the radical “中” is selected, then key 1 is pressed, and so on.

10 Referring to Fig.9, similar to Fig 7, Fig.9 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 9 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals whose first strokes are related to the oblique shape. In this pattern, if the radical “千” is selected, then key 5 is pressed; If the radical “亼” is selected, then key 8 is pressed, and so on.

15 Referring to Fig.10, similar to Fig 7, Fig.10 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 4 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals which are related to the circle or loop shape. In this pattern, if the character or the radical “足” is selected, then key 2 is pressed; If the character or the radical “骨” is selected, then key 3 is pressed. and so on.

20 Referring to Fig.11, similar to Fig 7, Fig.11 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 5 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals which are related to the

cave shape, and are multi-stroke radicals. In this pattern, if the radical “匚” is selected, then key 7 is pressed; If the radical “匚” is selected, then key 9 is pressed, and so on.

Referring to Fig.12, similar to Fig 7, Fig.12 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 6 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals which are related to the steeple shape. In this pattern, if the character or the radical “食” is selected, then key 6 is pressed; If the character or the radical “匚” is selected, then key 3 is pressed, and so on.

Referring to Fig.13, similar to Fig 7, Fig.13 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 1 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals which are related to the cross shape. In this pattern, if the radical “才” is selected, then key 8 is pressed; If the radical “匚” is selected, then key 1 is pressed, and so on.

Referring to Fig.14, similar to Fig 7, Fig.14 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 2 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals which are related to the fork shape. In this pattern, if the radical “攴” is selected, then key 1 is pressed; If the radical “戈” is selected, then key 2 is pressed, and so on.

Referring to Fig.15, similar to Fig 7, Fig.15 is a JiuGong pattern, which appears when key 3 is pressed at step 1, it includes nine radicals which are related to the zigzag shape. In this pattern, if the radical “匚” is selected, then key 7 is pressed; If the radical “匚” is selected, then key 8 is pressed, and so on.

Figure 7-15 are nine radical patterns, nine radicals each pattern, 81 radicals altogether, all Chinese characters are covered by the nine groups of radicals respectively, that is, all Chinese characters are covered by the 81 radicals. The method and effect of this coverage is also an important characteristic of the invention.

Referring to Fig. 16, Fig. 16 is a flow chart of a preferable embodiment in a example of inputting a character “高” according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method. As described above, the character “高” is a character which can’t be split obviously into a left-half and right-half, therefore it is called a monolithic character, or a non-transverse character. Since its starting stroke is a dot shape, a number key corresponding to the dot shape is pressed at step 1. And at step 2, a number key corresponding to a radical “一” is pressed. Now, the shape characteristics of the character “高” has been inputted, so according to the preset step rule, key 0 is pressed in case of a monolithic character at step 3, and the picture is highlighted, thus a selecting stage starts.

As seen from this, according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method, when a monolithic character is inputted, only two keys are basically needed to realize the input operation, so it is a simple input method.

Referring to Fig. 17A-17C, Fig. 17A-17C are explanatory drawings of JiuGong pattern in a example of inputting a character “高” according to the Chinese

character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention. A Chinese character to be inputted here is “高”, the starting stroke of which is of a dot shape, so the key 7 is pressed at step 1. After the key is pressed, a JiuGong lattice radical pattern appears on the display screen, as shown in Fig. 17A. Radical “一” of character “高” appears in the position of the key 4 in the pattern. The key 4 is then pressed at step 2. After the key is pressed, the JiuGong pattern changes to a JiuGong lattice containing nine Chinese characters shown in Fig. 17B, in which the character “高” are included. Since the character “高” is a monolithic character, key 0 is pressed at step 3, therefore, as shown in Fig. 17C, the JiuGong lattice pattern at the lower right part is highlighted, whereby a Chinese character can be selected. As the character “高” is positioned at key 5, key 5 is pressed now, and the character “高” jumped into the position to which the cursor pointed on the display screen, so that the input operation of character “高” is completed.

Referring to Fig. 18, Fig. 18 is a flow chart of the example of inputting “敲” according to the Chinese character JiuGong input method of the invention. The character “敲”, different from the character “高” which is a monolithic character, is a transverse character which can be split into a left-half and a right-half. So character “敲” is split into “高” and “支”. The steps of the Chinese character JiuGong computer input method describe above have three steps. At step 20 1, a number key corresponding to the dot shape of the starting stroke, i.e., key 7 is

pressed. At step 2, a number key corresponding to a input radical “一”, i.e., key 4 is pressed. At step 3, a number key corresponding to a straight shape of the starting stroke of the right-half of the split Chinese character “敲”, i.e., key 8 pressed. Thus the input operation of the Chinese character “敲” is completed, 5 and a selecting stage starts.

As illustrated in the figure, the left half of the transverse character capable to be split into said two halves need not be considered at step 3, and only the starting stroke of the right half is required.

As seen from the figure, only three keys are needed to realize the input 10 operation of a transverse character.

Referring to Fig. 19A-19C, Fig. 19A-19C are explanatory drawings of JiuGong pattern in the example of inputting a character “敲” according to the Chinese character JiuGong encoding input method of the invention. A Chinese character to be inputted here is “敲”, a transverse character, and only three keys are needed 15 to realize the input according to the fore-mentioned rule. Because its starting stroke is a dot shape, the key 7 of the keyboard, i.e. the dot shape key, is pressed at step 1. Now the JiuGong lattice on the display screen turns to be a JiuGong dot shape radical pattern, in which a radical “一” is included at the 4th key’s position, as shown in Fig. 19A. So the key 4 of the keyboard, i.e., the radical “一” key is 20 pressed at step 2. After the key is pressed, the JiuGong lattice changes to a pattern

of nine Chinese characters shown in Fig. 19B. As for a transverse character, this pattern can not be used. Because the right-half of the character “敲” is a straight shape, key 8 is pressed, that is, the key 8 of the keyboard is pressed at step 3. After the key is pressed, the JiuGong lattice turns to be another JiuGong pattern of nine Chinese characters, as shown in Fig. 19C, in which the character “敲” is included. Then the character is selected, and the selected character jumps into the position to which the cursor pointed on the display screen, thereby the input operation of the character is completed.

The examples of Fig. 16 to Fig.19C completely summarize the steps of JiuGong encoding input operation and the appearances of JiuGong lattice patterns for all Chinese characters. In the method, pattern suggestions are given. The first is a introduction pattern of Fig.1, then radical patterns are given, so that operator need not learn by rote, and with the guidance of the JiuGong pattern, it is convenient to operate.

Referring to Fig. 20, all of the methods, steps and characteristics of Fig. 1 to Fig. 19C applied to a computer , can be applied to the communication field. For example, in the mobile telephone set shown in the Fig. 20, there has been common number keyboard containing keys 0-9, thus as long as the Chinese character library, the JiuGong lattice pattern library and the exclusive control program are installed into the telephone or mobile telephone set, the Chinese character JiuGong input method of

the invention can be applied to the communicative field. Since computers are widely used in the information transmission field, all the content described in Fig. 1 to Fig. 19C can be used in this field, such as wireless paging station, finance information station and the like. That is to say, the invention can be applied to the computers in 5 the computer field, the telephone or mobile telephone set in the communication field, and a transmitting means and receiving means in the information transmission and network transmission field.

It can be concluded that, the characteristics of the Chinese character JiuGong computer encoding input method of the invention are, all of Chinese characters are 10 classified into nine groups, i.e., dot shape, straight shape, oblique shape, circle shape, cave shape, steeple shape, cross shape, fork shape and zigzag shape. Using the shape of the character, the corresponding radical is found.

Except that only the shape of the character is needed to study, the specific steps are those of reading the graph, identifying the characters, and selecting the required 15 character. Three minutes are enough to grasp, and its procedure is much easier than that of writing with a pen.

According to the method of the invention, more than five thousands Chinese characters, enough for normal life and even writing, can be easily inputted. The input method is not only simple, but also fast. After studying for a while, an operator can 20 input thirty or even forty Chinese characters every minute, two times faster than with

a pen.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A Chinese character encoding input method , used in computers of the computer field, telephone or mobile telephone set of the communication field and transmitting apparatus and receiving apparatus of the information transmission and

5 network transmission field to realize the Chinese character encoding input, said method comprising: all Chinese characters are divided into two groups, monolithic characters and transverse characters, all shapes of starting strokes of Chinese characters are divided into nine groups, that is, dot shape, straight shape, oblique shape, circle shape, cave shape, steeple shape, cross shape, fork shape and zigzag

10 shape, each shape corresponds to one of the numbers 1-9, to which a JiuGong lattice containing three rows and three columns, 3×3 , nine squares is applied, the input operation is performed according to the following steps:

Step1, a corresponding number key is pressed according to the starting stroke of a Chinese character to be inputted;

15 Step2, according to a radical to be inputted, a corresponding radical in a JiuGong lattice pattern is selected, a number key of the keyboard determined by the position of said radical in the JiuGong lattice is pressed;

Step3, a) if the Chinese character to be inputted is a monolithic character, function key 0 is pressed. then the selection of the Chinese character starts,

b) if the Chinese character to be inputted is a transverse character, a corresponding number key is pressed according to the shape of the starting stroke of the right-half of said Chinese character , then the selection of the Chinese character starts.

5 2. The method according to claim 1, wherein all Chinese characters are divided into two groups, i.e., monolithic character and transverse character for inputting, and said monolithic characters are the Chinese characters which can' t be split into a left-half and a right-half, whereas said transverse characters are the Chinese characters which can be split into a left-half and a right-half.

10 3. The method according to claim 1, wherein said shapes of the starting strokes of all Chinese characters are divided into nine groups, that is, dot shape, straight shape, oblique shape, circle shape, cave shape, steeple shape, cross shape, fork shape and zigzag shape, and each shape corresponds to one of the numbers 1-9 respectively, which is used to input with a key.

15 4. The method according to claim 1, wherein, said dot shape is denoted by “*” , and it covers those Chinese characters which start with a dot stroke, for example, 永, 实, 痘, 次, 汕, 火, 心, and so on; said straight shape is denoted by “—” , and it covers those Chinese characters which start with a horizontal or vertical stroke, for example. 王, 两, 面, 中, 愿, 虎, and so on; said oblique 20 shape is denoted by “/” , and it covers those Chinese characters which start with

an oblique stroke, for example, 我, 毛, 香, 受, 反, 急, 年, 篁, 作, and so on; said circle shape is denoted by “o”, and it covers those Chinese characters which include a four-sided frame, for example, 国, 圆, 目, 尸, 巴, 民, and so on; said cave shape is denoted by “U”, 5 and it covers those Chinese characters which have an incomplete frame with three sides, for example, 同, 山, 月, 风, 冥, 巨, 帚, 凶, and so on; said steeple shape is denoted by “A”, and it covers those Chinese characters which is of steeple form, for example, 金, 分, 父, 谷, 小, 祭, 食, and so on; said cross shape is denoted by “十”, and it covers those Chinese characters which 10 include a cross form, for example, 直, 提, 土, 青, 木, 草, 革, and so on; said fork shape is denoted by “X”, and it covers those Chinese characters in which two strokes intersect to form “X”, one of the two strokes is oblique, for example, 有, 杀, 大, 春, 成, 力, 女, 也, 七, and so on; and said zigzag shape is denoted by “Z”, and it covers those Chinese characters which have a 15 zigzag stroke, for example, 了, 飞, 参, 阵, 刀, 丝, 弓, 马.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein 81 radicals are adopted, said 81 radicals are divided into nine groups, each group of nine radicals is distributed into three rows and three columns, and corresponds to number key 1-9 respectively.

6. The method according to claim 1 or 5, wherein 81 radicals of nine groups 20 are determined according to radical patterns of nine shape groups of the starting

strokes of Chinese characters, and each group of radicals corresponds to one of nine shape groups of the starting strokes of Chinese characters.

7. The method according to claim 1, wherein the input steps are guided by the change of JiuGong pattern.

5 8. A Chinese character encode input apparatus, wherein said input apparatus includes a keyboard containing at least number keys 1-9 and two function keys, and the keys 1-9 of said keyboard correspond to nine shapes of the starting strokes of Chinese characters, that is, a dot shape, a straight shape, a oblique shape, a circle shape, a cave shape, a steeple shape, a cross shape, a fork shape and a zigzag 10 shape, and are arranged into three rows and three columns in a JiuGong lattice pattern.

9. The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the input keyboard is a keyboard that only includes number keys 1-9, key 0 and another function key 11.

10. A computer apparatus using the method according to claim 1, comprising a 15 keyboard (1), CPU (2), a memory (3), a display (4) and a printer(5), wherein said apparatus also includes a Chinese character library (3-3), a JiuGong lattice pattern library(3-2) and an exclusive control program(3-1), all of which are preset in the computer, or are preset in the memory of the computer, or are inputted into the computer from a medium in the form of a CD or a magnetic disk.

11. The computer apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the computer apparatus can be replaced by a telephone or mobile telephone set in the communication field.

Abstract

Disclosed are a method which is used in a computer or a communicative mobile
5 telephone to achieve the JiuGong input of Chinese characters and a Chinese
language computer or mobile telephone thereof, in which Chinese characters are
divided into two classes, that is, monolithic character and transverse character, the
character fonts of starting strokes are divided into nine classes, each of which
respectively corresponds to the number keys 1-9 to input, 81 radicals in nine groups
10 are used, the JiuGong pattern introduction method is adopted, and the number keys
1-9 are used to input, so that two or three keys are enough to carry out the input of a
character to be inputted. The method of this invention is easy to study and could be
grasped within two minutes or three without learning by rote, even an inputter who is
a tyro could in short time make the input speed up to above 30 words per minute.

Fig. 1

	first column ↓	second column ↓	third column ↓
first row →	7 *	8 —	9 /
	dot	straight	oblique
second row →	4 O	5 U	6 A
	circle	cave	steeple
third row →	1 +	2 X	3 Z
	cross	fork	zigzag

Fig. 2

first row	7	8	9
second row	4	5	6
third row	1	2	3
fourth row	0		Del

Fig. 3

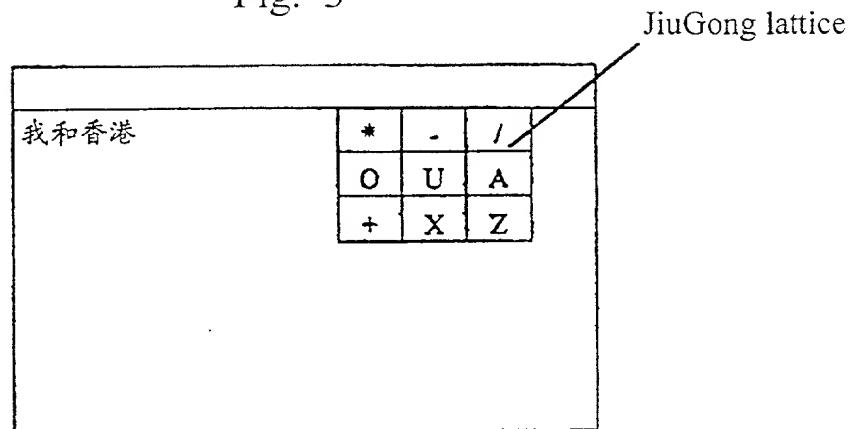


Fig. 4

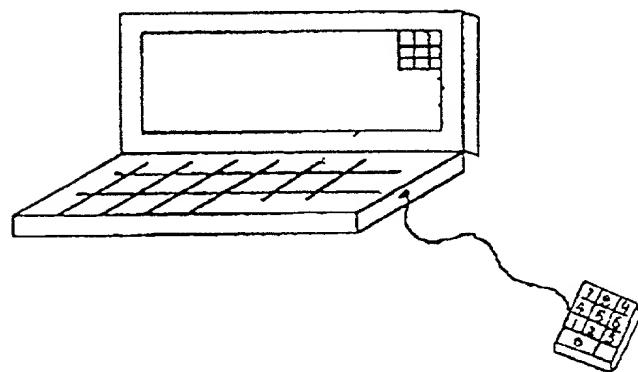


Fig. 5

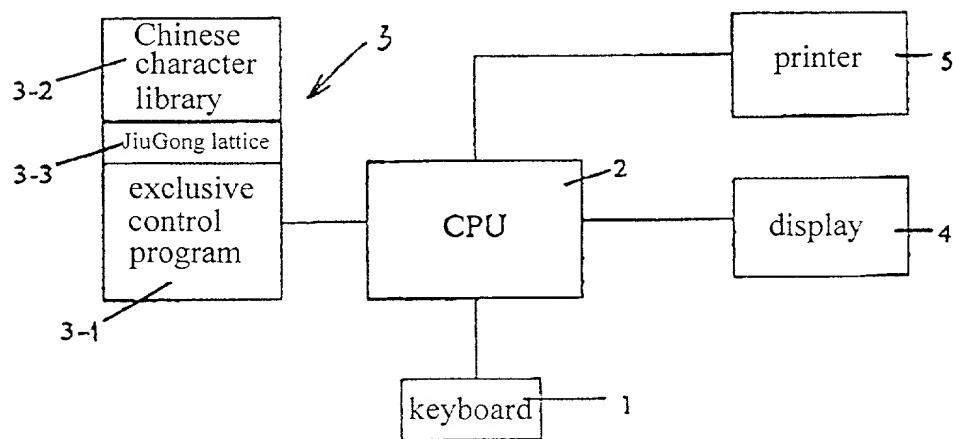


Fig. 6

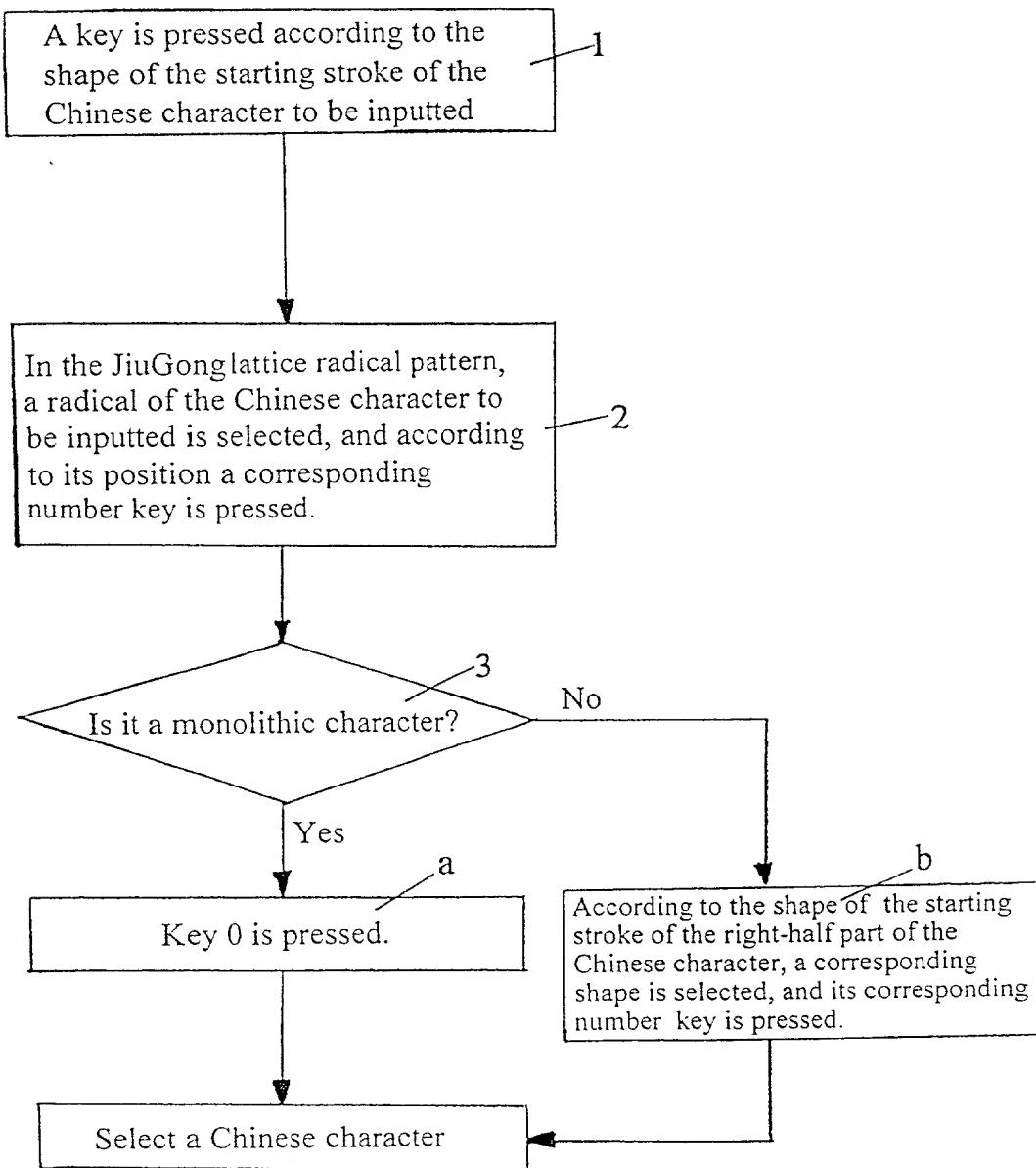


Fig. 7

7.

7丶	8丶	9丶
4一	5フ	6广
火		心

Fig. 8

8 -

一	一	士
厂	雨	酉
中	巾	虫

Fig. 9

9 /

ノ	イ	フ
人	干	人
匚	匚	匚

4 O

Fig. 10

口	戶	日
目	田	巳
贝	足	骨

Fig. 11

5 U

匚	岡	刀
几	門	口
匚	匚	山

6 A

Fig. 12

人	八	人
火	金	食
父	小	仓

Fig. 13

1十

十	扌	土
主	木	束
艹	甘	车

Fig. 14

2 X

大	又	彑
力	女	大
夊	戈	七

Fig. 15

3 Z

フ	厶	馬
阝	丂	力
乚	弓	厶

Fig. 16

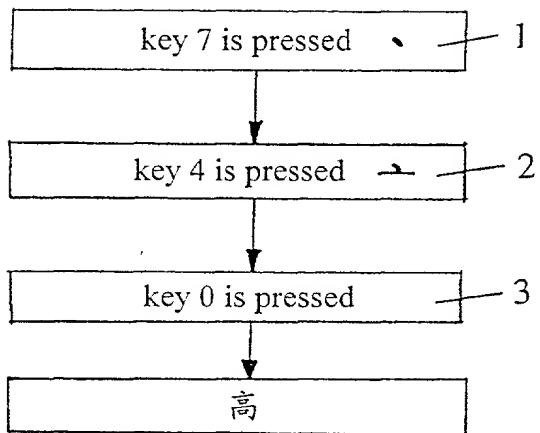


Fig. 18

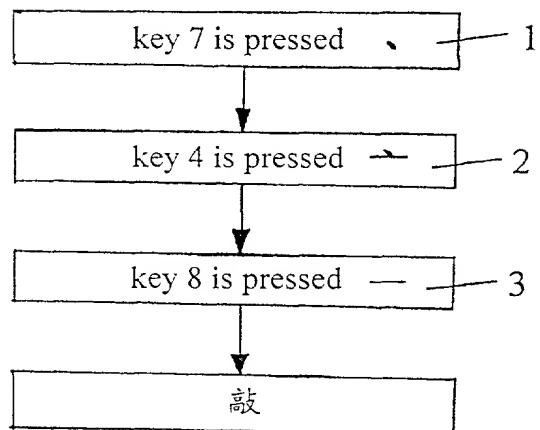


Fig. 17A

丶	フ	フ
一	フ	フ
三	火	心

Fig. 17B

主	意	弃
文	高	商
六	立	文

Fig. 17C

主	意	弃
文	高	商
六	立	文

highlight

Fig. 19A

丶	フ	フ
土	火	火
火	火	心

Fig. 19B

主	意	弃
文	高	商
六	立	文

Fig. 19C

语	刘	鼓
评	让	证
刻	订	训

Fig. 20

